Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01

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R 230955Z JAN 76 FM AMEMBASSY MANILA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1494 INFO USDEL USMISSION GENEVA

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AMEMBASSY NAIROBI AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UNCTAD, RP

SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY TO GROUP OF 77 MEETING MANILA

REF: MANILA 1089 (NOTAL)

1. HARBINGERS OF SOME 700 DELEGATES FROM 106 DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO THE TWO-WEEK CONFERENCE OF THE GROUP OF 77 OF UNCTAD HAVE ARRIVED IN MANILA. THE CONFERENCE OPENS MONDAY WITH A SPEECH AND RECEPTION BY PHILIPPINE HOST FOREIGN SECRETARY ROMULO, OTHER PRELIMINARIES, AND FRANTIC LAST-MINUTE ORGANIZATIONAL AND PRELIMINARY SUBSTANTIVE EFFORTS TO ASSURE EVERYTHING COMES OUT MORE OR LESS WHERE THE HEAVYWEIGHTS IN THIS LEAGUE INTEND. AT STAKE IN THE SENIOR GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL (JANUARY 26 TO FEBRUARY 1) AND MINISTERIAL LEVEL (FEBRUARY 2 TO 6) CONFABS MAY BE MUCH OF THE THRUST AND STYLE OF THE BIG EVENT IN NAIROBI THIS MAY. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACCORDINGLY, WE HAVE ORGANIZED OUR RESOURCES HERE ON

ALL-MISSION BASIS IN AN EFFORT TO DEVELOP ACCESS AND GENERATE INFORMATION WITHIN RELATIVELY INSTRUCTURED MEETING CONTEXT, AND BEARING IN MIND SUBSTANTIAL PREJUDICE OF SUCH MEETINGS AGAINST DEVELOPED COUNTRY POLICY, RESISTANCE TO OUR PROBING, AND INITIAL PREOCCUPATION OF HOST WITH ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROTOCOLARY ASPECTS. IN THIS REGARD WE WOULD BE ALL THE MORE INDEBTED FOR THE INDICATION OF DEPARTMENT'S PRIORITY INTERESTS REQUESTED REFTEL A. MEANWHILE, OUR CURRENT REPORTING PRIORITIES ARE.

A. ORGANIZATION, PROCEDURE, AND LEADERSHIP OF CONFERENCE.

B. POSITION OF DELEGATIONS ON ISSUES, INCLUDING COMMODITY AGREEMENTS, GSP, INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL POLICY AND NTB'S.

C. POTENTIAL PERIPHERAL ISSUES SUCH AS REPRESENTATION OF TWO KOREAS, ATTENDANCE BY PLO. ETC.

2. FOR NOW, OUR ORGNIZATIONAL AND PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS INCLUDE:

A. REGULAR CONTACT WITH OTHER DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS, INCLUDING THOSE OF OECD COUNTRIES AND APPROACHABLE THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES.

B. CONTACT WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF ATTENDING DELEGATIONS WHO MAY BE KNOWN TO MISSION PERSONNEL.

C. PRESS (A PRESS CONFERENCE IS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 24, AND WE HOPE TO MAINTAIN LIAISON WITH REPORTERS AND WIRE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES.)

D. SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES OF GOP AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (IMF, UNDP, ADB) SHOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL WITHIN CERTAIN LIMITS.
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GIVEN STRUCTURE AND TWO WEEK DURATION OF MEETING, WE EXPECT START MAY BE SLOW, BUILLIDING TOWARD GREATER SUBSTANCE AT END. THIS MAY BE OF SOME HELP TO US IN AFFORDING LONGER TIME FRAME IN WHICH TO STRUCTURE OUR COVERAGE.STULL

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